

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/605,849

Examiner

Sun J. Lin

Applicant(s)

BERGMAN REUTER ET AL.

Art Unit

2825

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendments & Remarks filed on 05/07/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 8-28, renumbered (37 CFR 1.126).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Applicants' attorney Pamela M. Riley gave authorization on June 12, 2007 for this examiner's amendment on Abstract filed on 10/30/2003 as follows:

Abstract, lines 1 – 23, change “Disclosed is a method of locating systematic defects ...feature vectors can be analyzed.” (i.e., entire abstract) to **—Disclosed is a method of locating systematic defects in integrated circuits. Extracting and index processing of a circuit design and feature searching are performed. During extracting and index processing, a window grid for the circuit design is established and basis patterns are merged with shapes within each. Shapes in each window are transformed into feature vectors by finding intersections between basis patterns and shapes. Feature vectors are clustered to produce an index of feature vectors. During feature searching, a defect region window of the circuit layout is identified and basis patterns are merged with shapes in the defect region window. Shapes in the defect region window are transformed into defect vectors by finding intersections between basis patterns and shapes. Feature vectors similar to the defect vector are found using representative feature vectors from the index of feature vectors. Similarities and differences between defect vectors and feature vectors are analyzed. —**

In addition, the application has been amended, based on Amendment filed on 05/07/2007, to correct the following informalities:

- Claim 12, line 2, change “design” to **—layout—**.
- Claim 15, line 13, change “layout” to **—design—**.
- Claim 15, line 15, before “shapes” insert **—said—**.
- Claim 22, line 13, change “layout” to **—design—**.
- Claim 22, line 17, before “shapes” insert **—said—**.

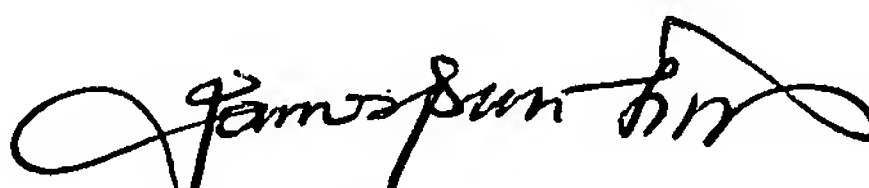
Art Unit: 2825

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sun J. Lin whose telephone number is (571) 272-1899. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 9:00am to 6:00pm.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (in USA or CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Sun J. Lin
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2825



SUN JAMES LIN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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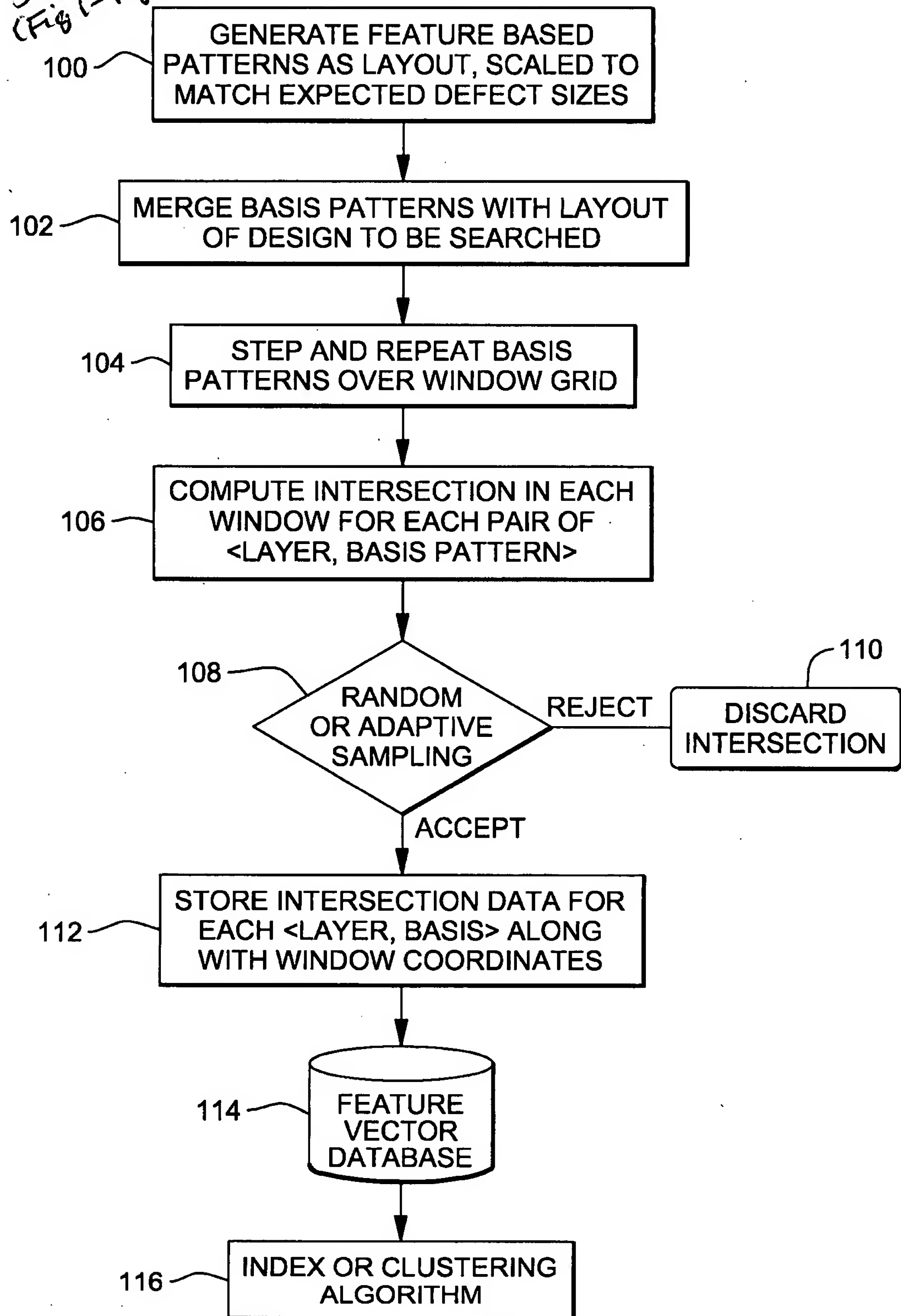


FIG. 1

FILED 5-7-07

Reviewed 5-pages
(Fig 1-Fig 5)

OK

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6-5-07

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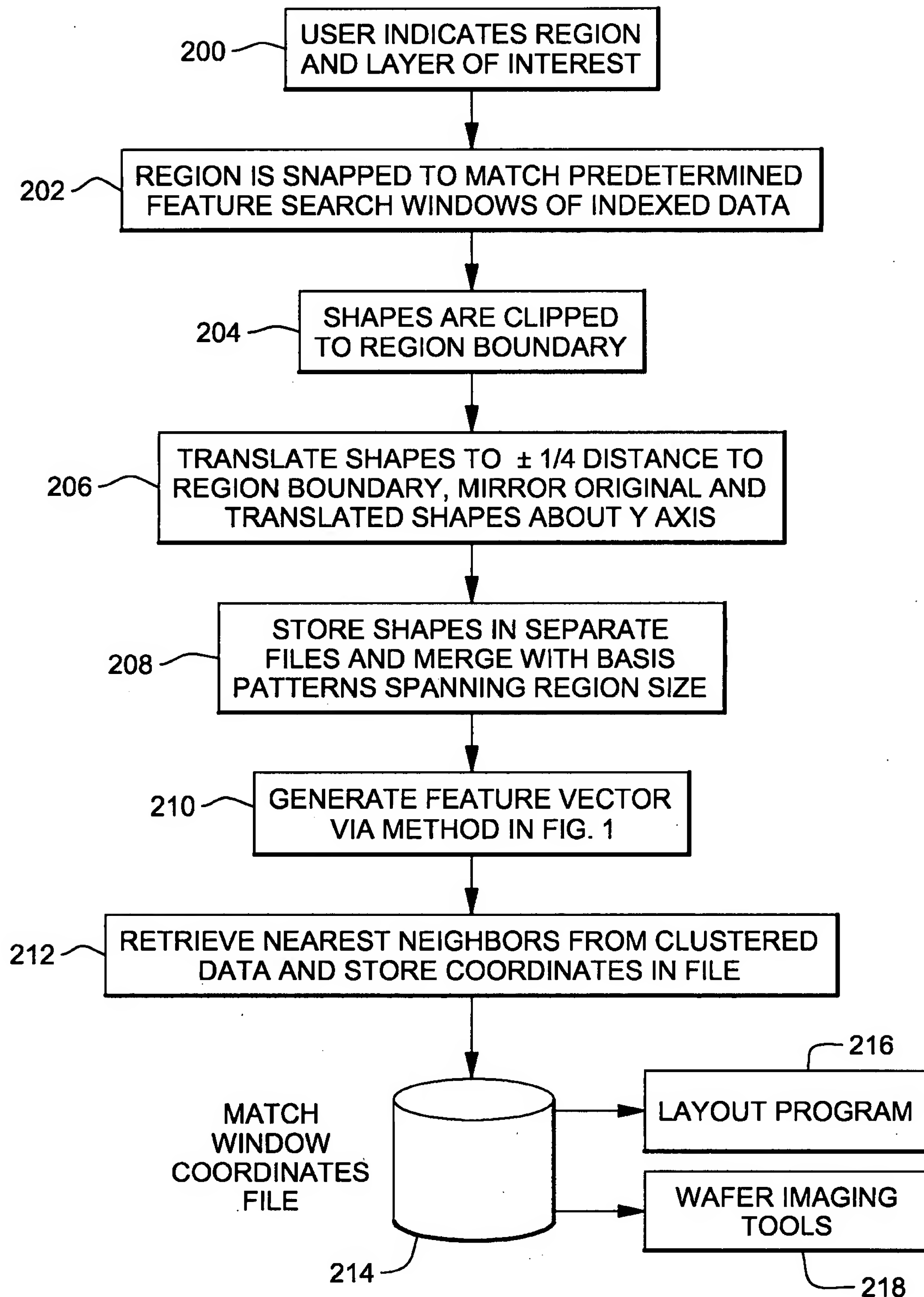


FIG. 2

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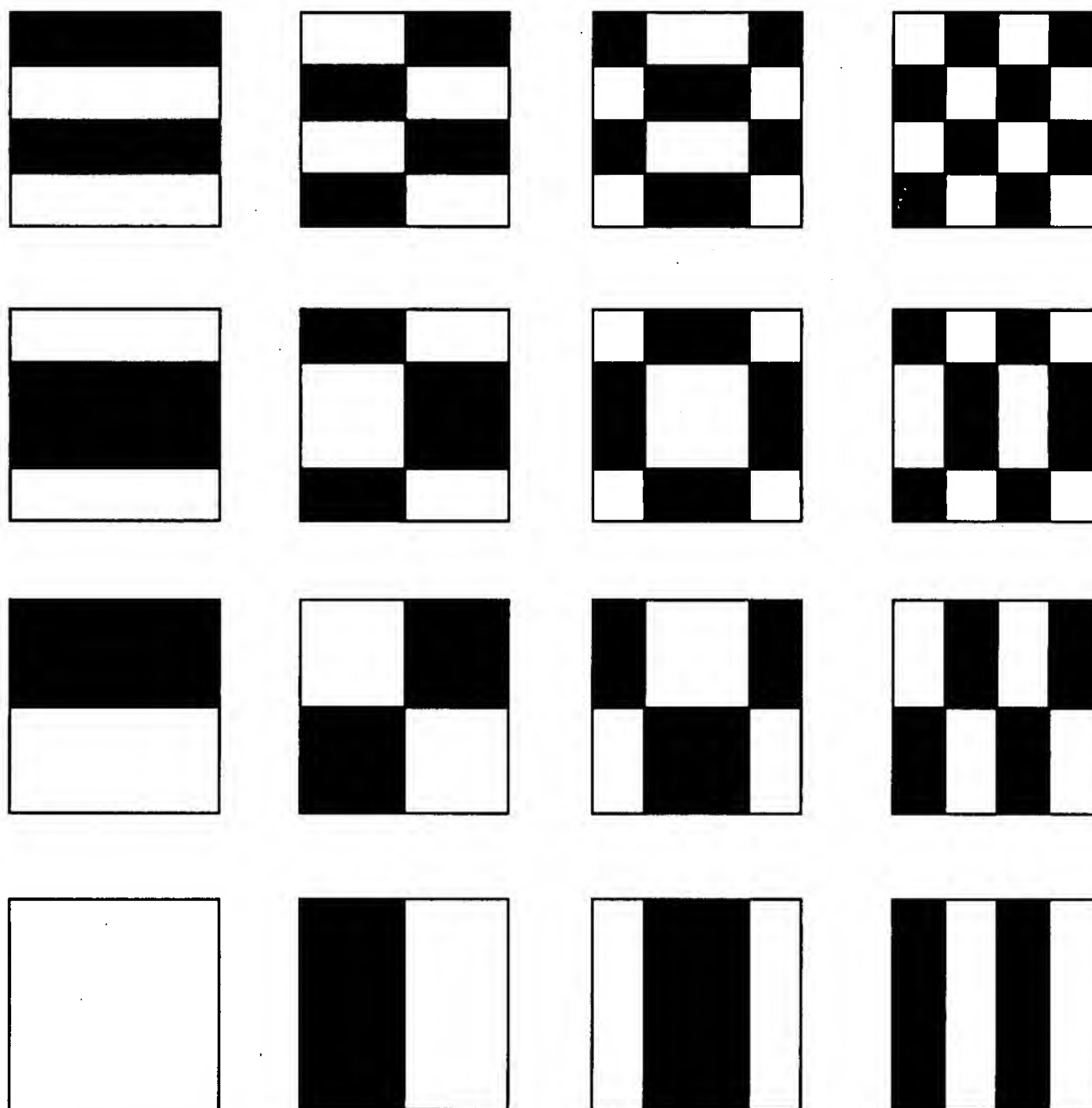


FIG. 3

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4/5

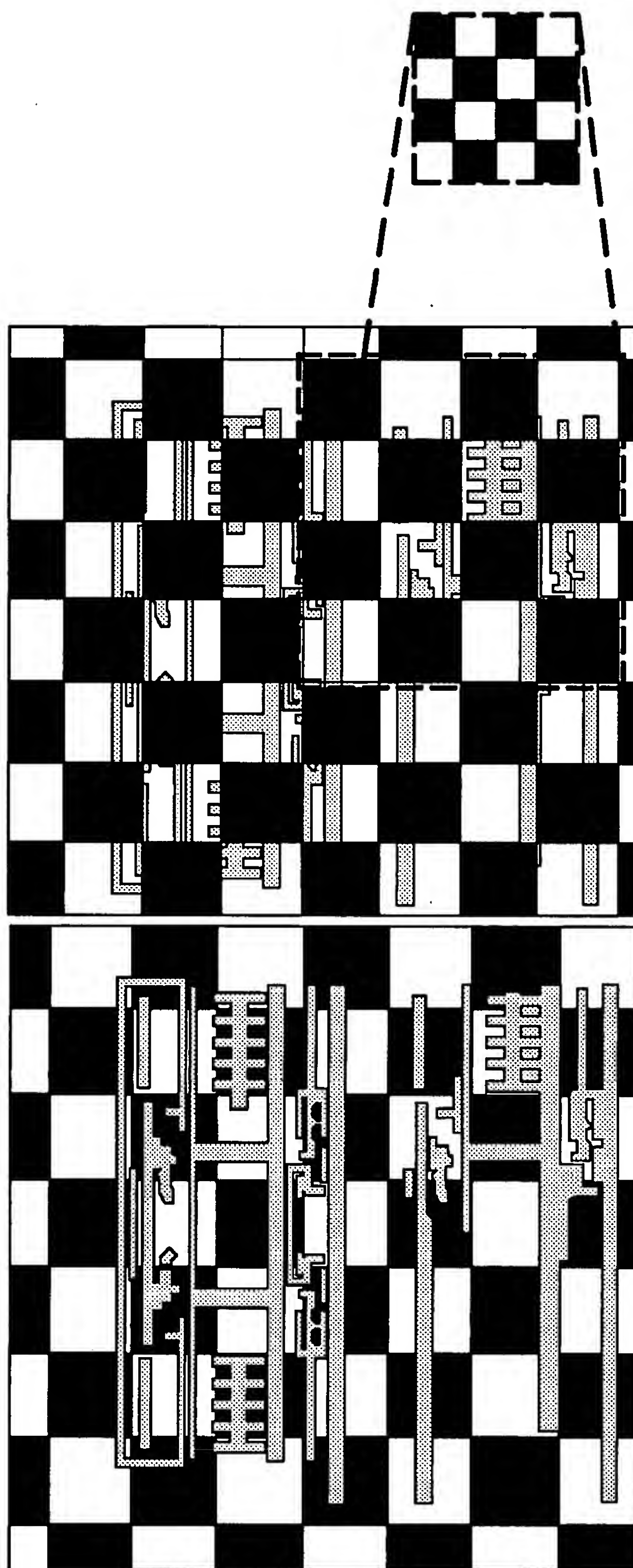


FIG. 4

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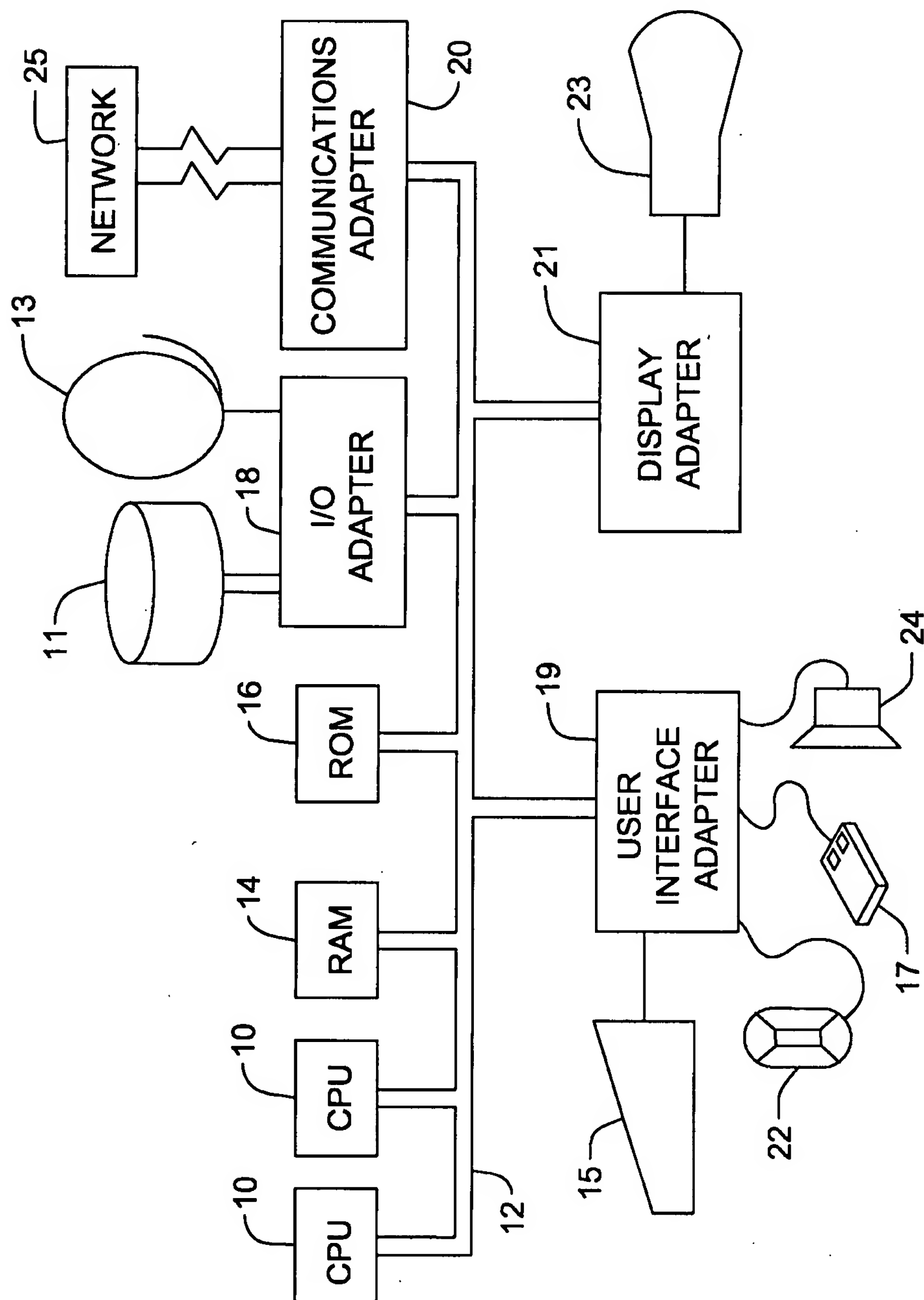


FIG. 5